HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Majority Caucus

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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation scheduled for the House floor

30 October 2001

Week of 30 October 2001

SUSPENSION CALENDAR

1) To extend eligibility for refugee status of unmarried sons and daughters of certain Vietnamese refugees (H.R. 1840).



This bill amends the Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2000 and 2001 to extend, through the end of fiscal year 2003, eligibility for refugee status for the unmarried sons and daughters of certain Vietnamese refugees. By increasing refugee admissions, the bill would increase direct spending (spending not subject to annual appropriations) for certain entitlement programs. Even though this increase would be small, it would give rise to a technical violation of the Budget Act under section 302(f). Additionally, discretionary appropriations could rise to cover the administrative costs tied to the increase in refugee admissions.

2) Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor should be presented to the public safety officers who have perished and select other public safety officers who deserve special recognition for outstanding valor above and beyond the call of duty in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001 (H.Con.Res. 243).

This resolution has no budgetary implications.

3) Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Amendments Act (H.R. 2559). This bill would extend the Long-Term Care Security Act (Public Law 106-265) to persons who had deferred their eligibility for Federal retirement annuities and who, under current law, could not participate when the enrollment period opens in 2003. The Congressional Budget Office [CBO] estimates that this bill would increase outlays of direct spending by less than \$500,000. This increase, though small, would exceed the allocation to the reporting committee (Judiciary), giving rise to a violation of the Congressional Budget Act under section 302(f).

4) Norman Sisisky Post Office Building Designation Act (H.R. 2910). This bill has no budget implications.



5) Congratulating Barry Bonds for setting the record of 73 home runs in a single season. This resolution has no budget implications.



6) Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission Act (H.R. 2362). This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenues.



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PLEASE NOTE: This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to express support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems.

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the House Committee on the Budget. It has not been approved by the full committee and may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

7) Regarding the use of trust land and resources of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (H.R. 483).



This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenues.

8) Chiloquin Dam Fish Passage Feasibility Study Act of 2001 (H.R. 2585). This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenues.



9) Buffalo Bayou National Heritage Area Study Act (H.R. 1776). This bill will not increase direct spending or decrease revenues.



10) Expressing the profound sorrow of the Congress for the death and injuries suffered by first responders as they endeavored to save innocent people in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001 (H.Con.Res. 233).

This resolution has no budget implications.

LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

Bill: Treasury and Postal Operations Appropriations Act - Conference Report (H.R.

2590).

Appropriations Committee:

Summary: This conference report provides budget authority for agencies in the Department of the

Treasury, certain parts of the Post Office, the Executive Office the President, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, U.S. Customs Service, U.S. Secret Service, and the

General Services Administration, as well as a number of other agencies.

Budget Act: No CBO estimate had been prepared at the time of the preparation of this document, so it

cannot be determined whether the conference report will be within the appropriate 302(b)

allocation (H. Rept. 107-208) reported on 20 September 2001.

Bill: Secure Transportation for America Act of 2001 (H.R.3150).



Committee: **Summary:**

Transportation and Infrastructure

This bill establishes a new Transportation Security Administration within the Department of Transportation headed by a new under secretary, who is to be responsible for security for the various forms of transportation. The bill requires the administration to adopt stricter standards for airport screening, and further requires Federal supervision of that process. It provides the administration the option of either using Federal employees or contracting with private screening companies. The bill requires deployment of Federal air marshals. It also provides for the new under secretary to authorize steps to strengthen cockpit doors. To finance the additional security measures, the bill requires a fee be charged for each one-way trip. This fee is based on the cost of providing the service, but is capped at \$2.50 per one-way trip. Additional funds for security are authorized to be appropriated, or may come from a fee imposed directly on the airlines. The bill establishes an oversight board, composed of representatives from other agencies of the Federal Government, to share intelligence information and oversee the new under secretary. It is expected that Mr. Ganske will offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute identical to the Senate bill.

Budget Act: At the time of the preparation of this Budget Week, CBO had not finalized the estimate for

> this legislation. The Budget Committee believes, however, that this legislation will comply with both the budget resolution and the Budget Act. The legislation is not expected to increase direct spending or include new entitlements when it reaches the floor. Nor is it expected to decrease revenue. The new fee will be classified as offsetting collections, such that it will offset a portion of the total amount appropriated for airline security.

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Budget Week Page 2 Bill: Legislative Branch Appropriations - Conference Report (H.R. 2647).

Committee: Appropriations

Summary: This conference report provides budget authority for the operations of the United States

Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, the Architect of the Capitol, the General Accounting Office, the Library of Congress, the Congressional Research Service and various other operations of the legislative branch of the Federal Government. In fiscal year 2001, \$2.7 billion in discretionary budget authority was appropriated for these programs. For fiscal year 2002 the administration requested \$2.98 billion. The House-passed bill provided \$2.24 billion, and the Senate provided \$1.94 billion. Neither the House nor the Senate includes funding for the other body in its respective appropriations

act. The final conference report will include funding for both bodies.

Budget Act: No CBO estimate had been prepared at the time of the preparation of this document, so it

cannot be determined whether the conference report will be within the appropriate 302(b)

allocation (H. Rept. 107-208) reported on 20 September 2001.

Bill: Energy and Water Appropriations - Conference Report (H.R. 2311).

Committee: Appropriations

Summary: The Energy and Water Development appropriations bill includes funding for civil works

projects of the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Energy, and a number of independent agencies, including the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Appalachian Regional Commission. Appropriations for programs in this bill totaled \$23.6 billion in fiscal year 2001. For fiscal year 2002, the administration requested \$22.5 billion. The House bill

provided \$23.7 billion in budget authority: the Senate bill provided \$25.0 billion.

Budget Act: No CBO estimate had been prepared at the time of the preparation of this document, so it

cannot be determined whether the conference report will be within the appropriate 302(b)

allocation (H. Rept. 107-208) reported on 20 September 2001.

Bill: Veterans Affairs/Housing and Urban Development Appropriations - Conference

Report (H.R. 2620).

Committee: Appropriations

Summary: This appropriations act provides budget authority for the Department of Veterans Affairs,

the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as well as a number of other independent agencies such as the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Corporation for National Service, and the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board. In fiscal year 2001, \$80.46 billion was appropriated for programs covered by this bill. For fiscal year 2002, the President requested \$83.36 billion. The House-passed bill provided \$85.43 in budget authority; the

Senate provided \$86.05 billion.

Budget Act: No CBO estimate had been prepared at the time of the preparation of this document, so it

cannot be determined whether the conference report will be within the appropriate 302(b)

allocation (H. Rept. 107-208) reported on 20 September 2001. Nevertheless, it is expected certain programs related to the Federal Emergency Management Agency will include emergency designations, which will require adjustment in the allocation to the Appropriations Committee to avoid making the legislation subject to points of order under

the Congressional Budget Act.

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ON THE HORIZON

Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2002

Though the House Appropriations Committee marked up the Department of Defense Appropriations bill on 24 October 2001, it has yet to be filed. No CBO estimate is available. Nevertheless, it is expected the act will provide a total of \$317.5 billion for the Department of Defense. This would include most of the additional \$18.4 billion in the administration's amended budget request submitted in June. Although the budget resolution did not specifically provide for this additional amount, it authorized the Budget Committee Chairman to make the necessary adjustments to accommodate it. Additionally, the Budget Committee recently reported legislation (H.R. 3084) amending the budget resolution and raising the statutory caps to accommodate the \$18.4 billion

The defense appropriations bill is actually \$1.9 billion below the administration's request, due to the allocation of some defense-related budget authority to the Military Construction Appropriations Act, as well as other reductions. In addition, it is assumed that the Appropriations Committee will consider adding language prior to floor consideration, which may release the \$20 billion in emergency supplemental appropriations previously included in the emergency supplemental passed in response to the events of 11 September. Included in the supplemental was a provision requiring a subsequent appropriation by Congress to release this second \$20 billion. The Appropriations Committee may also include text that will require this budget authority to be spent in specific ways, but it is expected the funding will be spread across a broad spectrum of homeland defense needs, not confined to the defense function.

Prepared by The House Committee on the Budget

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